

West Central Region Top Openings

2014-2024

The West Central region is expected to have over 20,000 total job openings between 2014 and 2024. This includes openings created by new job growth, as well as those created through the need for replacement workers. Replacement openings occur due to retirement, turnover, or transferring to another occupation.

During this projection period, the 20 occupations with the greatest number of total openings includes 3 Sales Occupations, 3 Food Preparation Occupations, 3 Office and Administrative Support Occupations, and 3 Education Occupations. “Cashiers” and “Combined Food Preparation and Serving Workers” are the occupations that are expected to have the most total openings, with over 1,000 total openings for each.

Occupation	2014 Est. Employment	2024 Proj. Employment	Growth Openings	Replacement Openings	Total Openings	Average 2015 Wage
Cashiers	3,098	3,163	65	1,318	1,383	\$19,202
Combined Food Preparation and Serving Workers	2,885	3,070	185	932	1,117	\$18,221
Nursing Assistants	2,881	3,029	148	651	799	\$19,919
Retail Salespersons	1,983	2,079	96	687	783	\$24,696
Personal Care Aides	1,780	2,250	470	144	614	\$18,960
Registered Nurses	1,502	1,743	241	354	595	\$54,081
Waiters and Waitresses	1,076	1,069	0	518	518	\$19,288
Office Clerks, General	2,022	2,046	24	436	460	\$26,661
Elementary School Teachers, Except Special Education	1,524	1,619	95	337	432	\$50,760
Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand	1,370	1,375	5	408	413	\$25,457
Maintenance and Repair Workers, General	1,222	1,291	69	320	389	\$32,357
Childcare Workers	902	1,024	122	266	388	\$20,198
General and Operations Managers	1,151	1,223	72	291	363	\$75,128
First-Line Supervisors of Retail Sales Workers	1,332	1,392	60	298	358	\$32,923
Stock Clerks and Order Fillers	1,107	1,071	0	351	351	\$22,125
Licensed Practical and Licensed Vocational Nurses	1,022	1,057	35	291	326	\$34,765
Cooks, Institution and Cafeteria	1,064	1,108	44	282	326	\$19,879
Secretaries and Admin Assistants, Except Legal, Medical, and Executive	2,432	2,497	65	256	321	\$27,827
Secondary School Teachers	996	1,054	58	236	294	\$45,418
Teacher Assistants	894	959	65	214	279	\$22,930

Data Sources: Missouri Economic Research and Information Center (MERIC), Long-Term Occupational Projections, Occupational Employment and Wage Survey, and U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. Product funded by the U.S. Employment and Training Administration, Workforce Information Grant.

